

Information Please Almanac

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growing field

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the yankees and new york baseball entered a golden age between 1949 and 1964 a period during which the city was represented in all but one world series while the yankees dominated however the years were not so golden for the rest of baseball in the postwar yankees baseball s golden age revisited david g surdam deconstructs this idyllic period to show that while the yankees piled on pennants and world series titles through the 1950s major league baseball attendance consistently declined and gate revenue disparity widened through the mid 1950s contrary to popular belief the era was already experiencing many problems that fans of today s game bemoan including a competitive imbalance and callous owners who ran the league like a cartel fans also found aging decrepit stadiums ill equipped for the burgeoning automobile culture while television and new forms of leisure competed for their attention through an economist s lens surdam brings together historical documents and off the field numbers to reconstruct the period and analyze the roots of the age s enduring mythology examining why the yankees and other new york teams were consistently among baseball s elite and how economic and social forces set in motion during this golden age shaped the

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at the height of their power in the late eleventh century the chaco anasazi dominated a territory in the american southwest larger than any european principality of the time a vast and powerful alliance of thousands of farming hamlets and nearly 100 spectacular towns integrated the region through economic and religious ties and the whole system was interconnected with hundreds of miles of roads it took these anasazi farmers more than seven centuries to lay the agricultural organizational and technological groundwork for the creation of classic chacoan civilization which lasted about 200 years only to collapse spectacularly in a mere 40 why did such a great society collapse who survived why in this lively book anthropologist archaeologist david stuart presents answers to these questions that offer useful lessons to modern societies his account of the rise and fall of the chaco anasazi brings to life the people known to us today as the architects of chaco canyon the spectacular national park in new mexico that thousands of tourists visit every year

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